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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE DISTR. 17 July 1951

SUBJECT Berlin-Jueterbog Railway Line

NO. OF PAGES 1

PLACE
ACQUIREDDATE OF
INFO.COPY
CIRCULATENO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

50X1-HUM

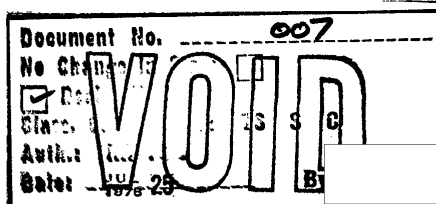
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1. Although the second track of the Berlin-Jueterbog-Belzig railroad line was dismantled some time ago, the Belzig-Wittenberg-Bitterfeld-Halle-Weissenfels-Erfurt stretch has remained a double track line.
2. Double tracking was begun on the Belzig Jueterbog stretch in the fall of 1950. However, a shortage of rails delayed the completion of this project until mid-January 1951. "Slow speed" regulations issued twice a month by the Berlin Railroad Directorate indicate that this stretch of track is now in operation as a double track system. Poor trackage consisting of short rails welded together has made mandatory the reduction of speeds on this stretch to 30-50 km per hour.
3. According to several reports and the "slow speed regulations" cited in paragraph 2 above, the Jueterbog-Berlin line was still a single track line on 10 March 1951. Furthermore, there are no indications of preparations to lay a second track along this stretch in the near future.
4. Plans do exist, however, to double-track this residual stretch of an important traffic artery, but a shortage of rails and other more urgent projects, such as the construction of the southern freight ring around Berlin, preclude the initiation of this work in the foreseeable future.

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